

## WASHINGTON CRITIC



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WASHINGTON, MARCH 31, 1890.

## A NEW COMMISSION.

The provisions of the McKinley Tariff bill, which have to date been considered by the full Committee on Ways and Means, and which have become tolerably well known to the country, have aroused a considerable variety of hostile criticism from members of both political parties, and from representatives of several sectional interests. This fact may show the difficulty of so revising the revenue system, from time to time, as that it may in the main be equitably adjusted to the changing conditions of national industry.

In the last number of the *Statesman* an intelligent and earnest article by Walter Thomas Mills directs attention to this difficulty, and suggests a possible remedy. His suggestion is a permanent Tariff Commission, similar to the Interstate Commerce Commission, with power at all times to obtain information and to receive appeals from neglected, endangered or conflicting interests. It would have the province of this commission to make such reports to Congress, from year to year, as to the changes in the tariff schedule which it deemed advisable.

Of course, it is the duty of Congress to provide for the expenses of the Government, and it does this mainly through the tax imposed on the importation of goods of foreign manufacture. This is effected through the adjustments of the tariff schedule to the conditions of the trade of the country. But these conditions are continually changing, and the tariff adjustments should, as nearly as may be practicable, conform to this variation.

In this connection it matters little what party is in power, or what theory of tariff legislation is held; the duty is the same. Whether it be held that import duties should be levied in sufficient quantity to meet the expenses of the Government, or with the least possible interference with the freedom of exchange, or should be raised so as to foster American manufacturing enterprises, the relations of the tariff to the industry and commerce of the country must be considered and justly arranged.

It is an obvious fact that a great share of the time of each Congress is occupied by schemes of tariff revision. Mr. Mills holds that the methods now in use by which Congress informs itself as to the needed changes are cumbersome and imperfect. He therefore proposes the appointment of a commission for a term of years, on which both parties should be represented, which should have the power to shape tariff legislation. He urges that the members of such a commission would be specialists, that their decisions would be the result of careful and authoritative investigation, and that all interests would be more justly served by them than at present.

Mr. Mills states his preference for such a commission as he suggests, for the following reasons:

(1) While Congress can never know all of the facts on which a just schedule must be based, a commission could secure the largest possible information. (2) While Congress cannot avoid special interests, and cannot fail to be largely influenced by them, a permanent commission would be largely of the nature of a court and could be more easily protected against such influences. (3) While Congress cannot provide for a constant adjustment of the schedule to the changing conditions of the market, a commission would be able to do so. (4) While large changes in the schedule occasionally bring disaster to business and the fear of them a constant embarrassment, such a commission, on the terms proposed, would effectively guard against both; while tariff legislation absorbs the activities of Congress and monopolizes the activities of publicists, thus thrusting aside other public interests, such a commission would leave the field more open for other questions, the consideration of some of which is of the most vital importance.

## DEALING WITH A HERETIC.

Probably the best advertised professing Christian in this country is Colonel Elliott F. Shepard, the pious editor of the *New York Mail and Express*. He is forever posing in some Christian attitude or another, and he has not the slightest idea of hiding his light under a bushel. He may not have all the qualities to be desired in a candidate for the Mayoralty of New York, but he has an excellent nose for heresy and he can deal with the heretic when he finds him according to his deserts.

It is one of this religious editor's usages to print in his paper the choice sermons of eminent divines. He recently published one by the Rev. Dr. Whiton, entitled, "The Bible a Self-Correcting Book." Even to the uninitiated in such things the title of this discourse would seem to imply that in its author's opinion there were mistakes in the Bible requiring some sort of correction. But this did not occur to the orthodox Colonel. He says that he found the text all right—as if any text taken from the Bible could in his judgment be wrong—and that he printed the sermon accordingly.

What was his horror, therefore, to find that this discourse, published in his own paper, proclaimed to the world, that Christ corrected some errors that

were accepted as truths in previous times; that the earlier prophets were wrong in some of their statements, and that mistakes, like the recent "grippe," for instance, are not necessarily manifestations of the Divine anger! No wonder had the pious editor discovered these heresies that he proceeded to refute them to the extent of four columns, and to scold the heretic as he deserved.

Of course he does this as mildly as the circumstances would permit, and as Christian duty would direct. He therefore is forced to confine himself to his references to the preacher to such meek epithets as "Don Quixote" Whiton, "Mr. Nimble-Jumper" Whiton, "Shifting Ground" Whiton, "Snare" Whiton, "Miserable" Whiton, "Mr. Handkerchief" Whiton and such other "good set terms." On reading these opposite epithets one cannot but feel how forcible the orthodox Colonel's arguments must have been. But we should really like to know how the Rev. Dr. Whiton feels. In the circumstances, however, the old classical quotation would be apt to occur to the unregenerate, *Tandem omnia solentur* (they).

## AN EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

The use of what is part of the Arlington estate which is unoccupied by the Government and which is practically waste land as an experimental farm would constitute it a valuable adjunct to the Agricultural Department. It would greatly increase its facilities for making these trials and tests in the cultivation of the various cereals, plants and fruits, for which it has now such limited room.

Outside of the beautiful cemetery and the ground required for garden purposes at Fort Myer, there are 800 acres which might be employed for the purpose suggested, with not only vast improvement to the neighborhood of this city but also with benefit to the whole country. The part referred to contains a considerable variety of soil which might be utilized, not only for experiments under the most favorable conditions but for the display of the best methods in practical farming. The farm itself might become a kind of object lesson for the agricultural visitor, while the reports of the success or failure of modes of cultivation by experts with the best appliances and under favorable circumstances would be read with interest by thousands of intelligent and progressive farmers throughout the land.

There can be no doubt that the carrying out of the proposed plan would add greatly to the beautiful surroundings of the Capital, and accordingly our citizens generally must have been pleased to learn that a bill is now to be presented in Congress providing for its execution. If the improvement is effected, and if the amphitheatre which is suggested for the crest of the bridge be built, these features will show additional necessity for the construction of the great Memorial Bridge to span the Potomac at the foot of New York avenue, which *The Critic* has heretofore earnestly advocated.

A CRISIS IN TAMMANY.  
Not since the downfall of Tweed and his ring has there been such a wholesale exposure of wrongdoing in the public offices of New York as that which is now being made. Light is being let in on the dark places. What may be not inappreciated as an epidemic of investigation prevails. The crooked acts of official rogues are being ruthlessly exposed and indictments are frequent. The air is filled with charges and counter charges, and not even Mayor Grant, ex-sheriff, has escaped accusation.

Now comes a clear note from over the sea. It is the voice of Richard Croker, the leader of Tammany, who is seeking to renew his health at the springs of Wiesbaden. He expresses the utmost confidence in Mayor Grant, and says: "Turn the rascals out, every one of them, but turn out the right men. Don't spare the big ones and disgrace the little ones. Turn out the rascals, big and little. Tammany men who betray the public trust, betray Tammany as well. Whoever he is he should go—the higher in office the quicker to go. The people are mightier than any political body, even one so strong as Tammany. You can't back a man's people for long. Tammany can't but must make Tammany have and protect men after they have been proven guilty. If Tammany does that as well as well put the shutters, with a neat little card outside like this: 'Death in the family. Gone to meet the County Democracy.'"

Tammany is fortunate in having for a leader a man so shrewdly honest as Richard Croker. If he were wise he would heed his words. It will be well. If not, the Columbian Order, almost coeval with the nation, will soon cease to exist. Honesty is the best policy, even in politics.

STANLEY AND WOLSELEY.  
A writer in the *Newcastle Chronicle* compares Stanley's trip to Wadelai to rescue Emin Pasha with Wolseley's armed excursion to Khartoum to relieve Gordon Pasha. Stanley had 10,000 men and Wolseley had 23,000. Stanley got there. Wolseley did not get there. Stanley's protégé is alive and well. Wolseley's protégé is dead, run through by bullets fired by the mad men. There could be no other comparison made. The world rings with Stanley's exploits and fame. The sage portion of the world is disposed to at least reserve judgment upon Wolseley, who took care of his army, which was large enough to have perished in a country without supplies and without large enough to force its way against the Arabs without regard to their positions and number. But enough has been seen of the comparisons to show that private enterprise stands very well against the claim of superiority in government enterprises, and may put in some claims of its own.—*Washington News*.

The *News* misses the point in the comparison of Wolseley's and Stanley's expeditions. Wolseley did not fail because he was a Government enterprise, nor did Stanley succeed because he was a private enterprise. Had Stanley commanded the Government expedition to rescue Gordon he would have succeeded. Had Wolseley commanded the private expedition to rescue Emin he would have failed. The cause of Stanley's success and of Wolseley's failure is to be found in the men themselves, not in the character of the expeditions.

of which they were the respective leaders.  
By the way, as the *News* appears to be deeply concerned of private enterprise, why does it not advocate it for the rescue of deep water in the Amazon? Instead of so doing it criticizes it, in season and out of season, for Government aid. The rest of the country will be easily reconciled to see private enterprise "put in some claims of its own" in the matter.

THE FACT is being noted that since 1864 New York has not given its electoral vote to either party in two successive canvasses. In 1868 it was carried by the Democrats, in 1872 by the Republicans, in 1876 by the Democrats, in 1880 by the Republicans, in 1884 by the Democrats, in 1888 by the Democrats, in 1892 by the Democrats. It is manifest that the State will vote Democratic in 1896. The fear of this is alleged by Republicans to be the secret of Democratic opposition to ballot reform.

A RICH LANDED proprietor in Austria has been sentenced to seven months' penal servitude, with occasional days of short rations and sleeping on a plank. He was convicted of inhumanly torturing a farm hand. They manage some things very well in the island-continent.

TEARS AND FLOWERS, music and cheering, singing and enthusiasm greeted Bismarck as, on last Saturday, he bade farewell to Berlin. Truly this seems a strange farewell for the populace to extend to the man of "blood and iron."

VEZY KNOX is the name of a new Irish National member of the British Parliament. He is unfortunate in one respect. No matter how big a man he may become in that body, it will always be said that his predecessor was a bigger.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL HOGAN of Texas is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor. His opponents say that's just like a well, like him, to want everything.

## PERSONAL.

EX-SENATOR T. W. FERRY, accompanied by Hon. George W. McBride of Grand Haven, Mich., is in Washington looking around after Lake Michigan harbor affairs. They also want an appropriation for a Government building at Grand Haven. The Senator's face is a familiar one to the Capitol, but Mr. McBride has not been here since 1881, when he marched up the Avenue with the Sixth Army Corps.

## THE SOCIAL WORLD.

President and Mrs. Harrison have invited a small company to meet at the White House on Monday night at dinner.

Mrs. G. Norman Lieber has spent the winter in the South with her sister, Mrs. Marvin of St. Paul, Minn., who is invalid.

Mrs. Arline Bell, after a short stay at Virginia Beach, has gone to Boston.

Dr. Hazen has returned from a trip to Florida.

Mrs. Thomas L. Brown, with her two children, will come to Washington after Easter for a stay of several weeks with her mother, Mrs. Bleeker.

Secretary Tracy has been elected an honorary member of the Massachusetts Yacht Club.

Miss Carrie Story has returned to this city after a fortnight's stay at Fort Stevens.

Captain and Mrs. Schley and Miss Schley made a flying visit to Fort Stevens last week.

Lieutenant W. W. Galbraith, U. S. A., will leave the city on Tuesday for West Point, after a few weeks' stay at the Hotel.

General and Mrs. Van Vleet and Mrs. Van Nostrand returned last week from their trip to Florida.

Captain C. M. Rockefeller, U. S. A., spent last week in the city.

Dr. and Mrs. Pope invited a company to their residence on Saturday evening to hear the Lotus Glee Club of Boston, which rendered some charming music.

Several additional instrumental and vocal numbers were rendered by Miss Nellie Hunt, Mr. Horatio Morse, Mr. Merson, Mrs. Nute, Mrs. King and Mr. Semelent.

Mrs. Paron Stevens gave a dinner in New York last evening, in honor of Madam Arline. Later in the evening a large number of guests attended the reception which followed.

Among the dinner guests were the Duchess of Marlborough, Prince Yuribud, ex-Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. William C. Stevens, Mr. Horatio Morse, Randolph Robinson and Arthur Leary.

Miss Farwell, daughter of Senator Farwell, was made of honor at the marriage of Miss Isabel Scribner of New York to Mr. Carter H. Fitzhugh of Victoria, B. C.

The marriage took place on Saturday at Blau Lodge, the suburban residence near Chicago of Walter Cranston Larned. Mr. Charles Scribner of the New York publishing firm, a brother of the bride, gave her hand in marriage. Among the ushers was a brother of Sir Stafford Northcote.

Professor Carl Lumholtz, the Norwegian scientist, will give a lantern lecture on his life among the cannibals one day this week.

## WOMEN'S POLITICAL GRANCES.

Nothing to Prevent Their Election to Congress, Says Miss Anthony.

Some one circulated the rumor on Saturday that Miss Susan B. Anthony proposed removing to Wyoming and making the race for the United States Senatorship when the Territory shall be admitted as a State.

Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts will pay \$12,500 for the use of Lord Spencer's London house during the season.

Ex-Secretary Whitney has recently been in Boston to determine whether to send his son to Harvard or to Yale next year.

General Neal Dow, the temperance agitator, has just celebrated his 80th birthday, and is still hale, happy and hearty.

The Empress Frederick and her two daughters will leave Berlin about April 1 for a six weeks' visit to the Crown Prince of Greece.

William Endicott of Boston has just entered his 97th year. He is the sole survivor of the seventh generation of John Endicott's descendants.

The oldest living college graduate in the United States is stated, in *Arnos* F. Parker, who was graduated from the University of Vermont in 1813, and is now 98 years of age.

A patriotic Frenchman has entered into negotiations for the purchase of "Mille" "Angela" with a view of its possession by the French nation. This is rather late, to say the least.

Ernest Renan, the French Philosopher, indulges in a hobby of not riding in vehicles of any kind, preferring to walk, although his health is feeble and a stout cane is necessary to support him.

Miss Gwendoline Caldwell, who refused to permit Prince Murat to reduce her surplus, has been suffering from typhoid fever in Rome. She was considered fatally ill at one time, but is now on the road to recovery.

Austin Dobson's appearance would surprise those who have so long admired his easy grace and airy fancy of his poems. There is nothing ethereal about him. He is a heavily-set man, with a florid countenance.

Judge Cooley, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, was much improved in health by the two months' visit to the South, but it is not believed that he will be able to resume his duties for some time to come.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes is the owner of an interesting relic in the shape of a silver teapot that had descended to him by a collateral line from Tutor Flynt of Harvard College, whose term of service extended from 1654 to 1699.

## WIT IN A SMALL WAY.

The Sprinter's Paradise—Lapland.—*Fun*.

The natives of Alaska are a cold and distant people.—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

A stutterm has his own ideas about the parts of speech.—*Glen Falls Republican*.

A lawyer depends on words; the real estate man on deeds.—*Merchant Traveler*.

A hangman's noose should be purchased by line-of-measure.—*Arkansas Record*.

It is the Bohemian artist who always brushes reason aside.—*Judge*.

The weather is as uncertain as the age of a girl over 30.—*Richmond Recorder*.

The gentle spring is drawing near. We note it in the first and last of the year. But still we cannot say 'tis here. Until we see the first straw hat.—*Chicago Herald*.

Concoctive Miss Piper. There is a lady in Glynn County, Miss Piper, who lives fourteen miles from Brunswick, who has spoken to school on two occasions and little girl in sixteen years. Miss Piper lives within two miles of a railroad and can hear the whistle of the engine every time it passes her house, yet she has never seen an engine or ridden on a train in her life. She has been living on the same place for sixteen years.

Getting Out of the Wet. From the *New York Sun*. "Well, Bismarck is sensible."

"Think so?" "Certainly. But he ought to have come in out of the rain when it began."

And tears of tender pity on her cheek, "Harper's Bazar."

## SCIENCE REMINISCENCES.

Lincoln Asked Him If He Could Fight—The Bull Run Retreat.

The New York *World's* Washington correspondent says: There was never any doubt about General Schenck's bravery. When the attack was made on Sumter, he wrote at once to Abraham Lincoln, offering to serve in any capacity.

In helping to sustain the Government, the union and our flag," and he also offered his services to Governor Doolittle of Ohio in the same way. When he called upon Lincoln at the White House, the latter said, as he entered:

"We are having a devil of a time just now, Schenck; can you help?"

"I don't know, but I can try," replied Mr. Schenck.

"All right, and I am sure that you will succeed," said President Lincoln.

"You have it in your blood, and you will be a better general,"

The President then made out a commission for him, and General Schenck showed himself an able officer. He received a major-general's commission for gallant conduct at the battle of Cross Keys, but he was wounded at the second battle of Bull Run, and he felt the effects of his wound to his death.

He was in the first battle of Bull Run, and at the close of it was on the retreat when through the darkness he heard a voice of a man riding rapidly by him, "Is that you, Schenck?"

"Yes, Sherman, is that you?" replied Schenck, and the man stopped, and the two for a moment hurriedly discussed the situation.

"What has become of your troops, Sherman?" said Schenck.

"Heaven only knows," said General Sherman. "They've gone with the crowd."

General Schenck held two of his regiments in hand and brought them into the battle, and the rest of the generals during this engagement lost all control of their troops.

A Wild Western Contemporary's Startling Charges Against Him.

From the *Oakland Call*, Morning Times. "Thersites is probably the most despicable character in the Shakespearean gallery."

Councilman Collins is the Thersites of the Sinfid Six.

Cassius, "the lean and hungry," is another type of the execrable exemplars of human nature depicted by the master.

Collins is the Cassius of the Rotten Six.

Iago is a villain of the most depraved instincts.

There are many people who affect to believe that Iago is an impossible villain.

These people don't know Collins.

Combine the vulgarity and impudence of Thersites with the sneaking treachery of Cassius and the malicious cunning of Iago, and you have a Collins.

All of these—Thersites, Cassius, Iago—had redeeming qualities.

Collins has none.

Poles, Pistol, Donalduff were thieves, cutpurses, swashbucklers; but they never, in all their depravity, reached the depths of infamy in which Collins is submerged.

When he introduced the ordinance drawn by the water monopoly for the aggrandizement of the water monopoly it was thought that Collins had crowned himself, King of the Boodlers.

The impression was wrong.

Collins crowned himself on Monday night.

Collins, King of the Boodlers. He wears the laurel proudly.

Laurel Jimson weed! A crown of Jimson weed to his palid brow!

His throne a pillow, his sceptre a muck-rake—his neck collar with the stripes for life of his servitude to the monopoly.

By his silence Collins has acknowledged his criminality.

The applause of the people is vented in hisses, and Collins was hissed into his infamous eminence.

There is but one punishment that will affect Collins—tar and feathers.

Even his conviction of malfeasance in office and subsequent deprivation of the trust which he has so infamously betrayed will scarcely move him.

He is beyond all shame.

The excretion of the people is almost music to his ears.

What he fears is the tar that sticks and the feathers that flutter in the night winds.

What a bird Collins would make. How he would flap his wings and crow.

What a libel on the birds he would be.

Collins is sunk so low in his own esteem that he is ashamed to resent the insults that have been heaped upon him.

Even Evans can claim a superiority over Collins. Evans knows more than Collins, and Evans did not vote for himself.

Evans is angered by the hisses of the people, but Collins submits like a terrier cowering beneath the blow of his master.

Evans will kick when he is subjected to the ignominy of summary removal from office; Collins will speak from the presence of the people and be heard of no more.

Collins has voted for himself for the last time.

The people have voted for Collins for the last time.

A Financial Transaction. From *Puck*.

Upon Downes—Well, this is a good start for the evening. I've just saved \$5. Rowan de Bout—How's that?

Rowan de Bout—Well, I've just saved \$10 on my watch, but I only took \$5. Where shall we stop to first.

## A CARD

FROM

MR. T. E. ROESSLE.

PROPRIETOR OF

The Arlington.

"THE ARRLINGTON,"

WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 6, 1890.

MY DEAR DR. LIGHTHILL:

It gives me great pleasure to state that you effected a remarkable cure of deafness and discharge from the ears in the case of my cousin, Marcus C. Roessle, and that the cure has proved as permanent as it was radical. I feel sure that without your skillful aid my cousin would have been a deaf man all his life. Knowing of other cases in which you have been equally successful, I cheerfully give you leave to refer to me at any time, and hope that your practice in Washington will prove a distinguished success.

Yours, truly,

T. E. ROESSLE.

DR. LIGHTHILL can be consulted on Deafness, Catarrh, Asthma and Diseases of the Throat and Lungs at his office.

No. 1017 Fifteenth Street Northwest.

Herdies pass the door.

Office hours from 8 to 12 and 3 to 5.

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And All the Novelties in Millinery.

AT 518 TENTH STREET NORTHWEST.

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All are invited. No cards.

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Lovely New Gingham, Satens, Chalks and Outing Cloths.

Beautiful Dress Gingham from 50c up to \$1.00. Gingham, in neat styles, for 10c; 15c; 20c; 25c; 30c; 35c; 40c; 45c; 50c; 55c; 60c; 65c; 70c; 75c; 80c; 85c; 90c; 95c; 1.00.

Beautiful Dress Gingham, in beautiful shades and stripes, for 10c; 15c; 20c; 25c; 30c; 35c; 40c; 45c; 50c; 55c; 60c; 65c; 70c; 75c; 80c; 85c; 90c; 95c; 1.00.

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